

Dear Arbor Park School District 145 Parents,

I hope you are doing well and enjoying your summer. The purpose of this letter is to communicate the District's plan for reopening should Illinois stay in Phase 4 of the Governor's Restore Illinois Plan.

Here is the link to information from Corona Virus Illinois as a reference.

<https://coronavirus.illinois.gov/s/restore-illinois-phase-4>



Restore Illinois Phase 4

Gatherings: All gatherings of 50 people or fewer are allowed with this limit subject to change based on latest data & guidance Travel: Travel should follow IDPH and CDC approved guidance Health care: All health care providers are open Education and child care: P-12 schools, higher education, all summer programs, and child care open with IDPH approved safety guidance

coronavirus.illinois.gov

We have been hard at work creating a plan of for what our Fall 2020 will look like. We have taken into consideration the needs of everyone and, given the current circumstances, I am happy to be able to give families a choice. There are many different factors that can impact how we proceed, but for now the district is reopening school for in person instruction and remote learning.

Parents can choose which option is best for their family. In order to keep some consistency with busing and the movement inside the buildings I am requesting that your choice be made until the end of the first trimester. If your situation changes please reach out to your Principal. At the end of the first trimester, we will revisit and move to our next district phase based on what is happening in our state. A survey asking what your choice is will be sent out soon.

Principals will be sending detailed information about specific building procedures in August. They will verify which option you are choosing. Please note we believe we can implement in person learning safely with IDPH guidelines for social distancing and PPE. This may change frequently. Principals will also be including information for parents about how any personal items still in desks or areas will be collected/returned. Buildings will host virtual "moving in nights" and other transitional events including remote learning tutorials and coaching to help with our new school year. We learned a lot from our emergency remote instruction last year and our virtual school experience has improved. This year grades (instead of pass/fail) return as do attendance requirements.

An important factor for you to consider when making your decision is how in person learning will look. It will be very different than our traditional school day, movement will be restricted and highly structured, masks are required, and daily symptom screening is mandatory. I would like to encourage families to choose the remote learning option if at all possible so that our numbers can remain low for those that need the in person option. Since many families are essential workers and unable to keep their children at home for remote learning we know that we must strive to keep our buildings open. On the one question survey last week, almost exactly half of the respondents indicated they would send their child to school and the other half said they would choose remote learning. Using this number, we are able to safely return to in person. Please remember that any symptoms and/or confirmed cases will require that remote learning occurs for that entire small group (and teacher) for 14 days.

Another consideration that would help to minimize exposure for our district and community would be to drive your student(s) to school if at all possible. If you are not able to drive your student then transportation will be provided with symptom screenings given to each rider before boarding. Together we will get through this challenging crisis, safely, and united.

Please see the document entitled District 145 Return To School Plan for further information. Please also complete the registration process as soon as possible and thank you to those that have already. Completed registrations allow building Principals to plan for the best academic program possible. I greatly appreciate your attention to this matter. I am also grateful for your support to our wonderful little district! We are Responsible and Responsive, Conquering Covid Calmly, and Student Centered, Future Focused!

Enjoy the rest of your summer break.

Sincerely,

Dr. Andrea Sala, Superintendent